

Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Program Resources

Disseminated monthly by the
U. S. Department of Labor, Office of National Programs,
Division of Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Program
200 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20210
<http://wdsc.doleta.gov/msfw>

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Upcoming Events

- August 12-15 "Empowering the Nonprofit Sector." 2004 Alliance Annual Conference. Washington, D.C.
www.allianceonline.org/annual_conference
- October 6-9 [National Congress for Community Economic Development - 2004 National Convention](#)
Los Angeles, CA
- October 16-19 [National Council for Workforce Education Annual Conference](#): Baltimore, MD
- October 27-31 [21st International Career Development Conference](#)
Sacramento, CA
- Oct 31-Nov 3 [National Staff Development and Training Association \(NSDTA\)](#) Chicago, IL
- November 15-18 "Building on Excellence...Committed to Farmworker Success." Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs National Conference San Francisco, CA. www.afop.org
- December 9-11 "Connecting Education and Careers 2004." Association for Career and Technology Education's Annual Convention and Career Tech Expo. Las Vegas, NV. www.acteonline.org

An additional Workforce System-Wide Calendar of Events provided by the Employment and Training Administration, <http://www.workforcetools.org/calendar.asp>, can also be found on the "Workforce Tools for the Trade," a USDOL website designed to help workforce development professionals excel.

Department Initiatives

Department Announces Launch of Workforce³One -- Web-Based Tool Will Promote a Demand-Driven Workforce System

Assistant Secretary of Labor for Employment and Training Emily Stover DeRocco today announced the launch of [Workforce³One](#), a web space designed to promote the objectives of the [President's High Growth Job Training Initiative](#).

For more information please refer to the [June 30 News Release](#)



Regional Announcements

REGION III

Pella Corp. will add 100 to 200 jobs at its **Murray, Kentucky**, plant during the next few years to meet the sales demand from Lowe's home improvement stores nationwide. With 550 current workers, Pella already is 50 above the number projected during the first two years of operation. The firm, based in Pella, Iowa, announced in June 2002 that it would move into a 733,000-square-foot building vacated two months earlier when Mattel closed its 980-job toy plant. Pella has hired many former Mattel workers. Murray is headquarters for Pella's Advanced Materials Division, including ThermaStar products also made in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, and Portland, Oregon. The Murray plant is the first manufacturer of new Impervia windows and doors.

A flooring company will create 86 new jobs and invest \$36 million to

expand its operations at its flooring plant in **Garner, North Carolina** this summer. **Pergo, Incorporated**, will manufacture a new molding accessory that can be used with laminate flooring Pergo makes at its Garner plant. Production is scheduled to start in August at a new plant that will have 54 new jobs. An additional 32 jobs will be added at Pergo's Paragon project manufacturing line.

Buffet Enhancements

International, which makes more than 200 products for casino and resort hotels to use at their buffets, will build a 20,000-square-foot warehouse at its 10-acre site on Wagoner Road in **Fairhope, Alabama** and add 45 jobs to its workforce. About 80 percent of the jobs will be in manufacturing with the remainder as administrative and sales positions. Some employees make more than \$100,000 a year, while manufacturing jobs pay between \$10 and \$15 an hour.

A Missouri company, that processes prescription drug benefit services for insurance companies and state health agencies, is creating 650 jobs at a St. Mary's call center in **Camden County, Georgia**. **Express Scripts, Inc.**, based in the St. Louis suburb of Maryland Heights, Missouri, expects its first hires to start working in mid- to late-August. The company, which is investing \$14.7 million to refurbish a former Wal-Mart shopping center, initially plans to hire 100 people and

expects to be at full staff by December.

Hi-Tech Mold and Tool, a 21-year-old **Louisville** plastics company in **Kentucky**, is going ahead with an expansion that could add at least 150 jobs. Hi-Tech makes custom plastic parts for manufacturing companies.

Superior Essex, Incorporated, will increase production at its wire and cable plant in **Chester County, South Carolina** and hire 40 more workers. The increase follows completion of the company's acquisition of Belden, Inc.'s North American communications wire and cable business.

Myriad Botanical Resort, a \$900 million casino resort featuring an indoor golf course and water park received approval from the state Gaming Commission. The 540-acre resort planned for **Tunica County** would be the largest in **Mississippi**, now the third-largest gaming jurisdiction in the United States. It would employ 3,000 people. Plans call for an 80,000-square-foot casino with 2,000 slot machines and 90 table games, a 1,200-room hotel, a convention center, botanical gardens, an 18-hole, indoor golf course and 5-acre water park. Also being considered is a snow park with manufactured snow, targets for snowballs and a sledding hill. The resort site is two miles south of Hollywood Casino and about a half mile from the proposed I-69 project, a new

interstate highway that would run from the Canadian border in Michigan to the Mexican border in Texas. The hotel and casino are expected to open in the fall of 2006.

Club Chef, a produce-processing company from Cincinnati, is moving to northern **Kentucky** with 350 jobs and the promise of more. The company aims to move its 200,000-square-foot warehouse and \$8.5 million payroll to Covington later this year.

A planned manufacturing plant in **New London, Kentucky** could bring about 165 new jobs to the area. Toronto-based **ABC Group, Incorporated**, is planning to build a 140,000-square-foot manufacturing operation. ABC Group manufactures automotive systems and components.

Come this fall, workers at the **Jostens Incorporated's, Shelbyville** plant on Union Street in **Tennessee** will start cranking out diplomas under contract to high schools and colleges across the country. It is part of a plant consolidation plan for the school memorabilia company that will bring 115 more jobs to the Shelbyville plant, which employs 450.

REGION IV

Oklahoma officials **joined U.S. Cellular** executives to celebrate U.S. Cellular's entrance into the **Oklahoma City** market. U.S.

Cellular has hired 250 employees and invested \$40 million to build a local network infrastructure, including 126 wireless towers, to ensure high-quality service throughout the area.

Dell announced the selection of Oklahoma for a new customer contact center for customers based in the United States. The new center, scheduled to open in temporary facilities within the next 60 to 90 days, will be located in the Hertz Financial Center in **Oklahoma City**. The company plans to build a permanent facility next year in the 10-county Greater Oklahoma City region. Initially, Dell expects to hire approximately 250 sales agents and managers over the next few months and will work with the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission to recruit local people for the jobs.

REGION VI

The *Las Vegas Review Journal*, reports that 30% of Las Vegas area employers plan to increase their workforce and 63% plan to maintain current staffing levels. A similar survey a year ago revealed that only 17% of employers planned to increase hiring. The newspaper also reported that gaming and hotels, the largest employer group in Southern Nevada, grew by less than 1% during the last year, outpaced by growths in employment in construction (11.8%) and professional/business

services (6.7%). Manufacturing jobs increased by 4.5%.

Other Announcements

ETA Seeks Comments and Recommendations on Application for Alien Employment Certification

Under Section 212(a)(5)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA)(8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(5)(A)), certain aliens may not obtain a visa for entrance into the United States in order to engage in permanent employment unless the Secretary of Labor has first certified to the Secretary of State and to the Attorney General that: (1) There are not sufficient U.S. workers who are able, willing, qualified and available at the time of application for a visa and admission into the United States and at the place where the alien is to perform the work; and (2) The employment of the alien will not adversely affect the wages and working conditions of U.S. workers similarly employed.

[Form ETA 750, Parts A and B](#), is the application form submitted by employers that forms the basis for a determination as to whether the Secretary shall provide such a certification. Form ETA 750, Part A, is also utilized to collect information that permits the Department to meet Federal responsibilities for administering two nonimmigrant programs: the [H-2A](#) and [H-2B](#) temporary labor

certification programs. The H-2A temporary agricultural program establishes a means for agricultural employers who anticipate a shortage of domestic workers to bring nonimmigrant aliens to the U.S. to perform agricultural labor or services of a temporary or seasonal nature. The H-2B program establishes a means for employers to bring nonimmigrant aliens to the U.S. to perform nonagricultural work of a temporary or seasonal nature.

In order for the Department to meet its statutory responsibilities under the INA, there is a need for an extension of an existing collection of information (OMB Number 1205-0015) pertaining to employers seeking to hire foreign workers for permanent or temporary employment in the U.S. by filing an Application for Alien Employment Certification on their behalf. There is an increase in burden due to a significant and sustained increase in the number of applications filed by employers each year.

Comments and questions regarding the collection of information on Form ETA 750, Parts A and B, Application for Alien Employment Certification, should be directed to William L. Carlson, Chief, Division of Foreign Labor Certification, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room C-4312, Washington, DC 20210. Mr. Carlson may be reached at (202) 693-3010; this is not a toll-free number.

Comments are due by August 30.

For additional information and/or a copy of the information collection request, please contact Melanie Shay, Team Leader, Permanent Labor Certification Program, Division of Foreign Labor Certification, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room C-4312, Washington, DC 20210. Ms. Shay may also be reached at (202) 693-3010.

The [July 1 FEDERAL REGISTER](#) provides full background, burden hour estimates, and desired focus for comments.

ETA Seeks Public Comments and Recommendations for Reporting Requirements of the Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Programs

A sixty-day Federal Register Notice requesting comments on the subject was published July 20, 2004 seeking comments for the reporting requirements contained in 20 CFR 6777.300, including the provision for cumulative accrual reporting by fiscal year of appropriation. The opportunity for comment on proposed and/or continuing collection of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 ensures that the requested data, provided in a standard format, is minimized and understood and the impact of the collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Written

comments due on or before September 20, 2004 and the Federal Register Notice may be found at

<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/06jun20041800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2004/pdf/04-16429.pdf>.

Useful Websites

Coming up on the Season: Ven La Cosecha: An Exhibit sponsored by Cornell University Migrant Program

Based on five years of fieldwork and documentation, the exhibit, developed by the Cornell University Migrant Program, explores the world behind the supermarket shelves. Said Linda Norris, exhibition director, "We hope this exhibit provides an opportunity to explore a part of all our lives that is rarely seen and even less understood. During the course of the project, all of the project team came to appreciate the complexity of the issues and the compelling stories of the workers."

Excerpts from oral histories with workers and growers combined with contemporary photography by Drew Harty provide compelling views of the world of farmworkers today. Historic photographs, including those taken by photographers for the Farm Security Administration in the 1930s and 1940s, help visitors understand the historical forces that have shaped farmwork. Also in the exhibition are paintings by students in a Migrant Education Program and "Row Harvest," a large scale painting by former migrant worker Juan Cavasos.

The exhibit is fully bi-lingual in English and Spanish, and includes a section about home, where photographs and objects from Mexico help explore the homes that workers leave behind and their aspirations for their families and communities. Information about resources and teacher materials can be found at <http://www.farmworkers.cornell.edu>

-from News Release

The exhibit is appearing the Museum of American Financial History on 26 Broadway in New York, NY from June 2004 - December 2004

www.financialhistory.org

[Click here for more scheduling information](#)

Publications and Other Resources

The July newsletter from WorkforceUSA.net was delayed a few days for the holiday, but is now posted on the site. It includes information on templates for presenting labor market information, a study showing the positive impact of training provided through workforce development programs, a website with curricula integrating basic and work-related skills training, a facilitator certification course, two recent studies on improving services for low-income families, an assessment of the current challenges for community colleges, an analysis of the U.S. Motor Vehicle industry, and a free grant writing workshop.

The newsletter can be downloaded at <http://www.workforceusa.net/uploads/Newsletter6-July04.pdf>.

The Rural Information Center has a new database, Federal Funding

Sources for Rural Areas, located at: <http://www.nal.usda.gov/ric/ricpubs/funding/federalfund/ff.html> The database provides keyword and Boolean search capabilities. We hope you like it and find it helpful.

Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Program Resources is a technical assistance update distributed monthly by the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA) Office of National Programs, Division of Seasonal Farmworker Programs. It provides announcements and other public information gathered by ETA Regional Office Weekly Reports or shared through the USDOL website and other public access resources.

We welcome your input. Please let us know how these updates might be improved to better serve your needs. If you would like to contribute information, post an inquiry, or suggest topics to cover, please contact Gloria Salas-Kos (salas-kos.gloria@dol.gov).